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A-F1700

Attorney Docket: Bookbinder 16-6-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Bookbinder et al.

Serial No: 09/447,077

Filing Date: 11/22/99

Title: METHODS FOR PROTECTING  
SILICA-CONTAINING  
ARTICLE AND INHIBITING  
BREAKS DURING DRAWING  
OF OPTICAL FIBER, AND  
SILICA-CONTAINING  
ARTICLE PROTECTED  
AGAINST BREAK-INDUCING  
PARTICULATES

Group Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: W. Markham

RESPONSE

Do not enter  
WM  
2/23/04

Mail Stop: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action dated December 01, 2003 in the above-captioned application, please enter the following amendments and Remarks as follows:

Listing of the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.